

THE MCGILL DAILY

Volume 82, Number 10

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Wednesday, September 23rd, 1992

Welfare rights activists condemn verification officers

Look out for the Bou-bou Macoutes

BY PATRICIA HAREWOOD

An unofficial police force is investigating welfare recipients, revoking their welfare cheques if they find signs of cheating.

Some welfare-rights activists are angry at what they see as a violation of welfare recipients' human rights. But other anti-poverty activists see the police as a necessary evil to prevent abuse of the welfare system.

Lucy Bastien, an employee at L'organisation Populaire des Droits

Sociaux, believes there should be some type of control over who receives welfare. But she said the methods being used treat welfare recipients as criminals.

"There is something very evil about this type of control," said Bastien.

There are 150 such "verifying officers" in Québec, responsible to the provincial welfare office. They look for fraud in the welfare system.

In this search for fraud, they are given powers to interrogate family members, neighbours and anyone

who knows the suspect. They can also obtain warrants to search the houses of suspected welfare cheats.

These officers can even cancel welfare cheques without proof of welfare cheating, according to Jean Lalonde, a volunteer worker for the St. Columba House Welfare Rights Group.

Lalonde said the officers' investigation is usually invisible to the suspect, until the welfare recipient's cheque is cancelled. Lalonde questions the motives of the government in insisting upon investigation.

"This is not about saving money," said Lalonde. "It is about reinforcing punitive power over the

poor."

It is believed that there is a three per cent fraud in the system and some say the figure may be as high as 14 per cent.

But statistics show there is a 25 per cent fraud in the income tax system, yet no such "verifying officers" exist.

William Bristol, volunteer secretary for the Verdun Anti-Poverty Group and a former welfare recipient said that having "verification officers" was necessary to keep the system running properly.

He said he knows people who are cheating the system, and he does not think it is fair.

"Welfare isn't designed to provide a living, it is designed to provide

an existence," said Bristol.

Welfare recipients receive a monthly cheque that is barely enough to live on. A family of two adults, two children and one physically challenged person may expect to receive 1150\$, which is 225\$ per person per month.

Over 51 welfare rights groups throughout Québec will be meeting at the beginning of October to discuss how to go about getting rid of the officers.

Bristol disagreed with the welfare-rights groups' strategies.

"There is always a way around the system while working within the system," said Bristol.

Representatives of the Québec welfare office refused comment.

Montréal students organize for cheap buses

Students band together for lower fares

BY DAMION STODOLA

University and Cegep students from across Montreal have banded

together to lobby the Montréal Urban Community Transit Corporation (STCUM) for lower fares for all students.

A number of student associations, including McGill's Students' Society, are trying to pressure the city's transit corporation to raise the age limit for student fares above the present 18 years.

"Students make up a substantially large portion of public transport users," said Jeff Percival vp external for McGill's Students' Society, "We are a target market for the STCUM."

A feasibility study was performed by a number of student associations last year to study the impact on the STCUM of lower fares. According to Percival, the study shows students would use public transport much more if fares were lowered.

But STCUM itself has reservations about lowering fares for students.

Jean Savard, press officer for the STCUM, said that they have analyzed the possibility of lowering rates for full-time students.

"At this moment, due to budgetary restraints, it is not possible to lower fares for full-time students," he said. According to the STCUM

study, it would lose money despite the increased demand.

"Lowering fares for students up to 20 years old," said Savard, "would result in a 10 million loss, and a 15 million loss if the age limit was raised to 24."

Guy Chartand, president of Transport 2000, an independent Montréal transport lobby group, agreed with the concept of lower student fares, but expressed reservations.

"The concept is just," said Chartand, "but it is not economically feasible for the STCUM or society."

Chartand made reference to the Ryan Reform, in which the provincial government significantly reduced subsidies to the municipal transit corporations.

It would be difficult for the STCUM to compensate for lost revenues due to lower fares, according to Chartand.

"The STCUM would have to increase taxes on municipalities, business, or raise the regular fare," said Chartand. "Reduced rates for students over 18 is not a priority for the STCUM."

The students themselves, however, have had a problem organizing themselves to fight for lower fares.

A key player in the group lobbying for lower student fares, Laurence Brillon, secretary external for the student federation at Université de

Montréal, resigned from her position.

Her resignation resulted in the cancelling of a meeting scheduled for last Monday. Percival concedes this "throws a curve ball into the proceedings" but he remains optimistic.

Despite organizational setbacks, the group is trying to set its agenda.

The various student associations are trying to enlist more support from Cégeps to strengthen their positions.

The idea was initiated last year but has had some problems getting off the ground, according to Percival.

"The results were not favourable," said Percival. "Last year's endeavor failed due to lack of sup-

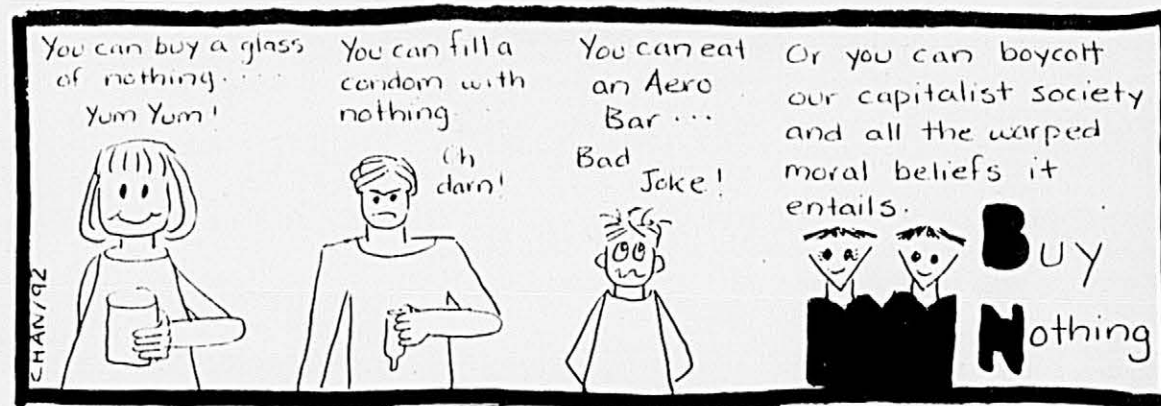
port from universities and a lack of funds for publicity".

As to the success of the project, the outcome "is anyone's guess" according to Percival.

"If nothing else," he said, "this project will serve to establish the groundwork for cooperation among student societies in the future."

Artist fights against consumerist glut

Buy Nothing Day



GRACE CHAN

BY ALISA SMITH

VICTORIA (CUP) — Vancouver artist Ted Dave has declared September 24 "Buy Nothing Day".

Dave is encouraging Canadians not to buy a single item tomorrow, in response to what he calls a glut of consumerism.

"To live in an environmentally and politically conscious way is almost impossible now," said Dave. Buy Nothing Day is "an exercise in personal and financial control".

Dave believes 24 hours is a reasonable amount of time to ask people to curb their spending habits.

"I'd like to see ideological corporations involved, by not trading stocks that day," he said earnestly, and then laughed.

"I don't want to appear pie-eyed about it, but the

small amount of participation asked for underlines the whole idea," said Dave. "It wouldn't really be that hard to live reasonably."

An ad for Buy Nothing Day appears in *Adbusters*, a media watchdog magazine. He's also putting posters up around Vancouver.

But Suzanne Keeler, a spokesperson for the Canadian Advertising Foundation, said Buy Nothing Day will not have much of an effect.

"If all Canadians were to do what Dave is suggesting, it would mean a dip in retail sales for that day," she said. "But I don't think one day out of a year would make that much of a difference."

Keeler said provinces that don't allow Sunday shopping already have a weekly Buy Nothing Day.

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Nazi punks fuck off!

anti racism demo attracts strange company

BY DOUG McDONALD

What happens when you take a rainy east-end street corner, mix skinheads, both racist and anti-racist, more conventional anti-racism advocates, hordes of cops, a bunch of KKK types and Hells Angel along with so much media you'd say "Where's Fergie?"

Let me tell ya, it ain't pretty.

The occasion was a meeting organised by the committee to fight racism at the Cégep Maisonneuve. The event comes in the wake of recent skirmishes between local extreme right movements and anti-racist forces. The police, expecting more violence, were on the scene in force, 10 cruisers in all.

In front of the Cégep Maisonneuve stood about ten skinheads from Skinheads against racist prejudice (SHARP) along with another ten event organisers standing in two quasi-militaristic lines, wearing red armbands. Across the street stood about 15 members of the extreme right.

When the *Daily* arrived at the stand-off, it was a good ten minutes until we could figure out which side of the street was against racism. When an Aryan flag blew out from the crowd next to us we realized

that they were the fascists; so we crossed the street to join the anti-racist side.

The moment of mistaken identity accentuated the sense of absurdity that filled the street. About 25 per cent of the crowd were journalists. There was no less than five major TV crews. The *Gazette* tried to interview the *Daily*. When we identified ourselves as members of the press, the *Gazette* reporter said "Oh shit, more us."

The bright lights of the T.V. crew cameras attracted the local skateboard and arcade set. One aged about 11 clad in a Public Enemy sweatshirt, stood between two KKK members, curiously observing the scene.

The scene was as disturbing as it was chaotic. T.V. crews stumbled over each other to interview the anti-racist skinheads of SHARP.

"David," a member of SHARP, said his organization was founded to fight racism "SHARP wants people to know that skinhead means you fight racism. It's about being working-class and fighting for the working class, and their values, and that's not racism".

David describes himself as a communist. He says that political leaning are not homogenous in

SHARP., "Some are apolitical, some are straight edge no drugs, no booze, some are violent...you know... Clockwork Orange. But as SHARP, we fight the fascists together," said David, kicking the ground with his cherry Doc Martens. "I am willing to die for the cause," he added, speaking with the anxiousness of teenage U2 fan waiting in line for tickets.

Across the street, a member of the Aryan-Nations, stood at attention holding the fascist flag just like he saw the Nazis do it in the history books, during what was presumably a "troubled childhood." About six members of the KKK stood, though not in the traditional gown and and goofy hat (that's too Hollywood I guess) but rather in decidedly ugly polyester white and grey (the KKK's uniforms made even the Marriot outfits look snazzy).

Among the KKK crowd, were such notables as Michel Laroque, arrested for smuggling explosives over the Canadian border last year, and the Quebec KKK vice president Alain Roy.

Of equal scariness were the two Hells Angels, and local nazi-skins, all of whom marched off after the police threatened them with loiter-



Participants in yesterday's anti-racism demo

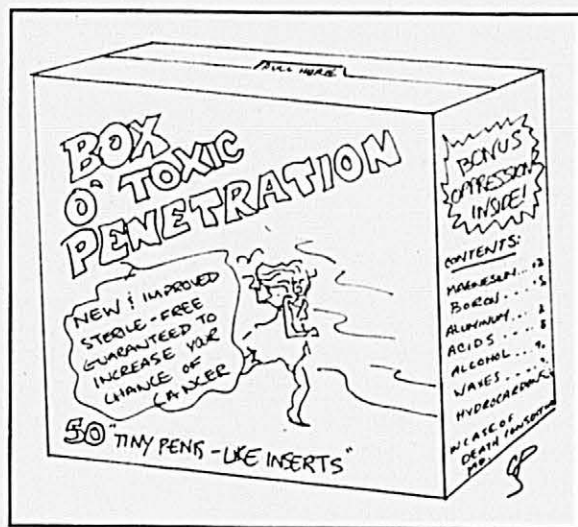
ing charges. The group marched through the peaceful east-end neighborhood single file, with the flag carrier in front, (all secretly humming Wagner's Ride of the Valkyries to themselves perhaps).

After the fascists left, things became even more absurd as the divisions in the anti-racist side became clear. When Alain Dufort, of Ligue anti-fasciste mondiale (LAM) arrived at the meeting, he was quickly approached by a very angry Richard St. Pierre, one of the event organizers. St. Pierre accused Dufort and LAM of having lost

touch with the anti-racist movement, and of siding with the Parti Québécois in their attempts to downplay racial problems in Quebec.

Dufort replied claiming the Committee Against Racism was far too conflict-based and were creating events to attract both fascists and the media. Dufort said that in his view, seeking out conflict and media attention was not the way to solve racism in Montreal communities, and that the anti-racist/anti-fascist movement should be looking to decrease conflict in communities, and not entice it.

Menstruation taboo hides health risks



BY ROXANE POULIN

OTTAWA (CUP)—Menstruation is the stigma of womanhood, with an entire industry built upon it. However, the facts that are now surfacing about feminine hygiene products are proving to be dirtier than any lies we have been told about menstruation itself.

In 1981, a U.S. Food and Drug Administration study found that tampons contain magnesium, boron, aluminum, lithium, surfactants, acids, alcohols, waxes, amines and hydrocarbons. These can amount to anywhere from .05 per cent of an o.b. tampon to 3.8 per cent of a Plalex deodorant tampon.

Well, at least they're sterile, right?

Wrong. At one time a toxic gas called ethylene oxide was used to sterilise them, but it was later discovered that it left a residue. Currently no other form of sterilisation is used.

Tampons are, however, bleached to obtain that crisp, white look the industry is so proud of. Yet dioxin residue is found in tampons due to the chlorine bleaching process and the production of rayon (most tampons are made of a rayon-cotton blend).

Studies in Sweden have linked these residues to uterine cancer. Dioxins have also been linked to Immuno-depression and reproductive failure.

Toxic Shock Syndrome (TSS), a life-threatening disease only recently associated with tampon use, is another concern for tampon users that has not been adequately addressed.

In the spring of 1980 doctors in Canada and the U.S. were facing a new, sometimes fatal, disease that left women with symptoms such as high fevers, vomiting, low blood pressure and liver and kidney failure. Some of the women died.

A pattern was later discovered: all the patients were menstruating and using tampons. The fact emerged that tampon use was a major contributing factor in the disease.

According to *Whitewash*, a book written by Liz Armstrong and Adrienne Scott which addresses the health and environmental dangers of women's sanitary products, by January of the following year 942 cases of the disease were reported in the U.S., including 40 deaths. Sixty-one cases surfaced in Canada with a fatality count of three.

Filling the void

Despite these and other shocking discoveries, information about health risks posed by tampons is hard to come by, said Ann Montgomery, one of four people working on an awareness campaign about feminine hygiene products at the Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG)

"There is more research on dioxin in coffee filters than dioxins in tampons," she said.

Though the OPIRG project is funded by a provincial grant of the Ministry of the Environment, Montgomery says the federal government has done very little in the way of research on the subject. She says all the research is done by the industry itself.

"Any negative research is not going to be published," she says. "Consumers who want to know about this issue have nowhere to go."

Yet women are still dying from this lack of knowledge. This summer in Chalesbourg, Québec, a 22-year-old woman showing all the initial symptoms of TSS died of the disease. Symptoms include fever, vomiting, diarrhoea, sore throat and dizziness.

Montgomery and OPIRG are working to fill the factual void about feminine hygiene products that persists and make women who use them more informed as consumers. An informed consumer is the key to change, she said.

"Women have the entire consumer clout," she says. "They could change the industry in six weeks through buying habits if everyone did it at once."

Whitewash details what happened in early 1989 when the British group Women's Environmental Network published a book called

The Sanitary Protection Scandal, which exposed the environmental and health implications of the production, use and disposal of sanitary products.

The result was a flood of more than 50 000 letters from all over the United Kingdom to manufacturers and government. Within six weeks all the major manufacturers had promised changes.

Tampon companies currently include a warning about TSS inside the package but Montgomery said this is not enough.

She said that like cigarettes, tampon boxes should carry a bold warning about TSS on the outside.

However, she added that warnings are not enough and that the government should "order the removal of all chlorine compounds in every step of the production of tampons".

Political action is also encouraged. Calling or writing your MP or the manufacturers of feminine hygiene products might be effective.

More information can be obtained at the OPIRG office, (613) 230-3076. QPIRG can also be called for information on this issue at 398-7432. L'Université de Montréal GRIP plans to present a talk on the subject on Friday October 16, at 15h. For Info call Veronique at U de M at 735-7074 or Tara from Concordia QPIRG at 848-7585.

THE MCGILL DAILY

comment

Welcome to the Jungle

Hey! Have you heard the one about the...? Dave, you wouldn't mind if I told a "Black/Jewish" joke would you? No offence to you but, ah... I don't mean to be racist but, what do you get when you cross a ...and a...? Does any of this sound familiar - the "a few people having some harmless fun" attitude and situation?

Last week at an informal gathering of the Black Students' Network Committee, a repugnant photocopy was produced, from t-shirts being sold at McGill residences. It presented a drunken, knobby-kneed, half-naked, dark-skinned character, holding a spear in his right hand and a shield in his left. On top of his head was an empty bottle of what — given the drunken, dizzy loo in his eyes — we could only conclude to be alcohol. His elongated neck was choked with a rude mimicry of a central-African symbol of beauty; his waist covered with a loin cloth, and through his flattened and enlarged nose, there was fixed a bone.

Jutting out from the dark backdrop of undergrowth and palm-trees behind this character, was a smiling, alert European (white) male figure, in a portrayal that is sober in comparison. Underlying this was the caption "Welcome to the Jungle".

The members of the BSN were hurt and annoyed. After a year of vocal and very visible efforts to encourage sensitivity to the invariably negative perceptions commonly held about Black people, it was incredible that such a blatantly prejudiced perspective could be tolerated, let alone marketed by any department of this university. And 150 of these shirts were sold.

This incident illustrated how deeply entrenched racist attitudes can be. They are so deep that they move unhindered at both the conscious and sub-conscious levels of people's understanding. Until someone complained, the Floorfellows at the residences did not acknowledge or consider the derisive and fallacious arguments which are inherent to the t-shirt design and to a whole society's primitive attitude towards Black African peoples.

While the eyes of these few people might now have been dramatically opened, it remains to be seen what concrete measures they will take to heighten the awareness of the students in their charge, and to ensure that a similar event is never repeated.

In his autobiography, Malcolm-X referred to an encounter with a white college girl who eagerly asked him, "What can I do?" The author coldly told her "Nothing," and the girl fled in tears.

In Malcolm-X's own words:

"Well, I've lived to regret that incident. In many parts of the African continent I saw white students helping black people." The point here is this; the fight against racism can be — must be — fought on all fronts and by all people.

The BSN does not ask anyone to engage in a campaign of "political correctness" — ie. the avoidance of certain issues and subjects in certain company. Nor does it ask that people like the Floorfellows who suddenly discover that they are guilty of holding and promoting intolerant ideas, continue *ad nauseam* to feel shame for their actions. Both of these will only lead to avoidance and compound the problem.

Perhaps what is required of people and society is the rigorous and constant questioning at the foundation of the subtle and not so harmless ideas that they — we — hold about other people.

Society - McGill - and its quiet oppression of peoples will not be slowed or stemmed by any of us shouting "fire" at gross examples of discrimination and racism alone. If we shout anything we must be prepared to shout "fire" at the little sparks as well. We must be willing, individually and collectively, to make sacrifice, and to take those preventative and constructive steps which have the possibility of altering the path of society and of bettering all our lives. Otherwise, we might all be crying "wolf" in the middle of an un-familiar jungle.

Ted Runcie



hyde park

TA Union? Non Merci!

Opinion by Jason Pan, Chuck McDonald, Andrew Bono, Bruce Mountain, Antoine Fournier, David Palmer, François Legault, Grad Students, Earth and Planetary Sciences

"The Proletarians have nothing to lose but their chains.... Workers of the world, Unite!" Aah, the famous rallying cry from Karl Marx in his manifesto of a certain discredited and rather unfashionable political ideology.

Now we are hearing this call to action on the campus, urging us to join a union representing all teaching assistants and student academic workers. We have been promised the wonders the TA union can do for us: common job standards, improved work conditions, better wages, social justice through solidarity with fellow suffering TA slave labourers, etc.

Well, we think some of these are good ideas, but just what are we agreeing to? What kind of constitution and organizational structure would it have? Call us wild-eyed idealists if you want, but 'Greed Is In' these days, and the operative words are: "What's in it for me?"

Unionize? Hang on a second, did we miss something here? What happened to the biggest Union of them all, the unlamented and pres-

ently named C.I.S.? Look at the big mess that's left behind, as it collapsed under its own mismanagement, corruption, central planning inefficiencies, and authoritarian regimes.

It doesn't take much to figure out what happened when unions and governments run amok from increasing radicalized politics and ever-enlarging bureaucracy. Need us to mention what kind of grassroots popular support that was pitifully lacking during the all too frequent public sector employee and postal union strikes, when contract negotiation leads to bargaining impasse which leads to confrontations at the picket lines.

As well, we are already up to our ears in endless meetings, political discussions, citizen's forums, commission reports, and what have you. Much more productive activities and valuable time can be better spent in our pursuit of happiness, hedonistic pleasures, wealth, and graduating degrees than attending union locals organizing committees, central committees,

sub-committees, ad-hoc committees, *ad nauseam* of yet another government/union ruling body.

Yes, it's true that some TAs are overworked and underpaid. On the other hand, some departments deal with TAs fairly, with generally good support. Each department has its own policies and requirements, some regard teaching assistantship as a vital and essential component of the graduate teaching and education experience.

Any disputes should be dealt with at the departmental level, between the graduate student group and their faculty. TA problems in one department should have no bearing in requiring students at other non-related disciplines to walkout on their classes. It is absurd and repressive for Geology students to hit the picket line, as a TA union may well mandate all members to do, from a called strike action due to some grievance at another department, say Epidemiology.

We have some problems with this proposed union covering all TAs across the board. Unless these concerns are addressed, then there will always be skeptics opposing any attempt to unionize graduate students. We are just not certain what other motives are behind this deal.

All readers are welcome to submit letters under 300 words. Add your name, program, year and telephone number. Anonymity can be provided; talk to an editor beforehand. Opinions can be expressed in the form of a Hyde Park, no more than 500 words.



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Why are so many intent on keeping corruption in the dark?

A conspiracy to cover up

Among those unsettled by the book is the speaker of Québec's National Assembly, who refused to distribute the books to MNAs after the authors sent him 125 copies.

And the book's original publisher, Alain Stengais, who refused to publish it after reading several sections.

And the Québec media, who unlike the media in the rest of Canada, have refused to touch it.

One might say a 'conspiracy' is keeping *Québecgate: a conspiracy of silence* shut up.

It's not as if it were authored by crackpots or outsiders either; Author #1 is John Tardif, who was a police officer in Sainte-Foy until 1988. Author #2 is Michel Papineau, who worked for the RCMP and who has also worked for CSIS (the Canadian Security and Intelligence Service).

In order to show the corruption and incompetence within the police and justice systems, the book describes a series of incidents, many occurring during Phase One of the James Bay hydroelectric project.

Some deal with police oppression of the Cree, who have been protesting the James Bay project since its inception.

For instance, the cover-up of the rape of three young native girls by three older white men working on the James Bay project near Fort-George in northern Québec.

The incident occurred in January, 1973, when the three girls — Flarmihta Mel, Rava Milriver and Sagaha Nisha (aged 16, 14 and 13 respectively) — were picked up while hitchhiking by Kingsley Delahaye (50), Ross Hunter (41) and Norman Toner (33).

The three men took the girls to a motel along the road, got them drunk and proceeded to have sex with them.

Under Québec law, the three men were charged with statutory rape, but the charges were later dropped. According to Tardif and Papineau, the men got off the hook as a result of racism within the Québec justice system and the incompetence of the police.

They quote comments from police officers who investigated the case. For example: "We know the Indians are less civilised than Whites. The girls took the drink quite easily, they can never resist

alcohol. The savages, they like to play."

Even though it was a clear case of statutory rape under Québec law, the justice system took little interest in the plight of the native girls.

Widespread corruption

Police corruption and brutality is also found in an incident which occurred in Sainte-Foy. Two police officers were shot dead after investigating a burglar alarm.

It looked like a simple case of a panicked burglar getting trigger-happy, until the investigating

officer (Tardif himself) discovered that the two had been murdered by a fellow officer, Sergeant Serge Lefebvre of the James Bay police. He had killed them to hide his connections with criminal elements.

After an attempted suicide, Lefebvre was sentenced to 25 years in prison. Despite the punishment, Tardif claims that it was only because of negligence at the top level of the Sainte-Foy police force that Lefebvre was able to get away with his corruption so long.

So he took these charges to the Québec Police Commission — only to have the commission hush them up, with the help of the Québec government and a police force trying to protect one of its own.

The book also talks about structural problems within the justice system, particularly pertaining to Northern Québec in the area of the James Bay project.

According to Tardif and Papineau, the chief coroner of Québec routinely sent signed death blank certificates north so that police officers could fill out whatever they wanted to after a death. This was contrary to normal procedure and led to many opportunities for corruption.

When Papineau sent a letter to the premier, Robert Bourassa, citing evidence of corrupt practices, asking that something be done, the

complaints were swept under the carpet once again.

The book goes on to list several other examples and implicates virtually everyone in the corruption of the Québec justice system.

Which explains why so many people had interest in seeing the book not published.

The media elite

In an interview with the *Daily*, Papineau explained the difficulty they had in putting out the book.

"Our initial publisher, Alain Stengais, refused to publish the book after he saw certain sections," said Papineau. "As a result we had to finance the book ourselves."

Papineau also talked about what he saw as a move to silence talk about the book by the Québec media.

"We had articles written about our book in the *Toronto Star* and the *Globe and Mail*," he said. "But there was virtually nothing in the Québec press."

Papineau suggested that it was corporate interests controlling the Québec media which stopped the research into the allegations made in *Québecgate*.

"And it's not that journalists didn't want to cover it here — we know they did because they have contacted us," said Papineau. "I think it was someone higher up in the newspaper who stopped the articles from being printed."

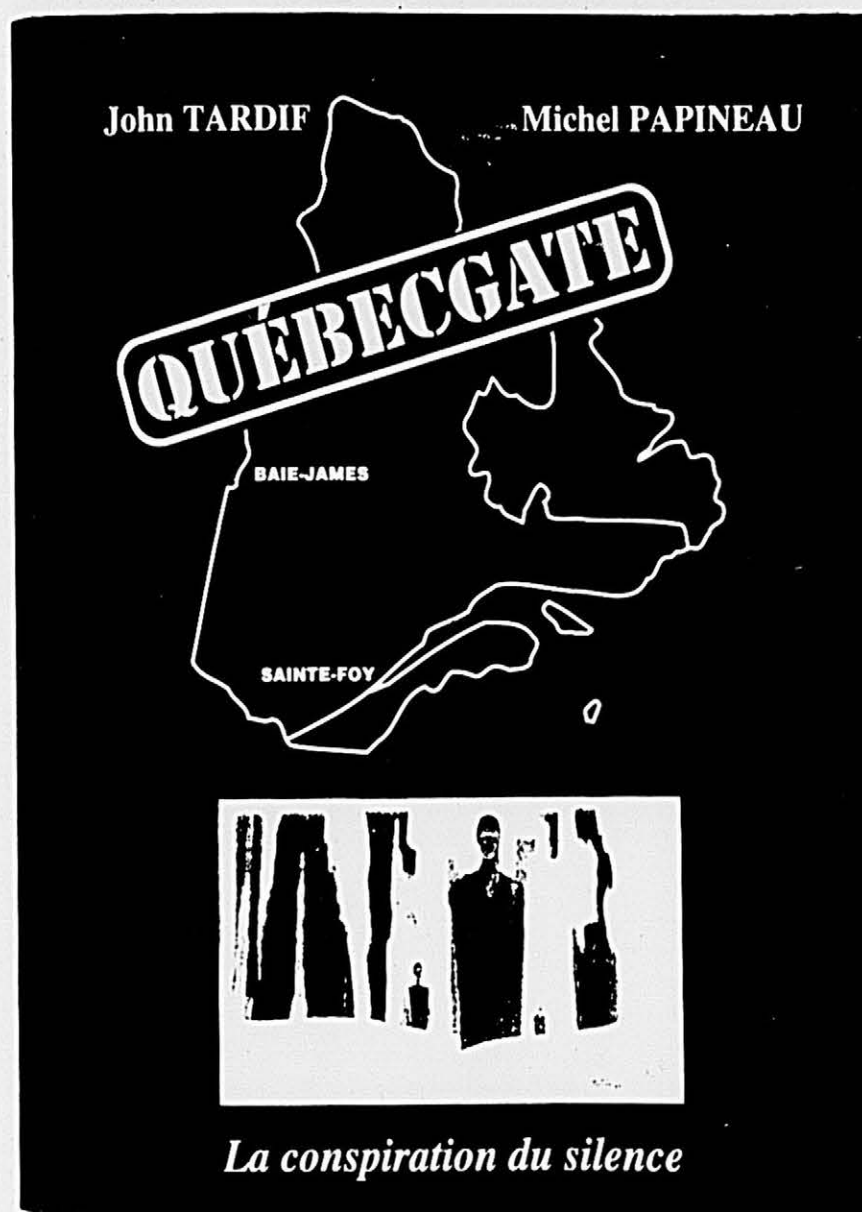
Papineau "considered it (the speaker's refusal to distribute the book) very odd," and stated that "Jean-Pierre Saintonge shouldn't use his role as speaker for political purposes. Not distributing our book was a very political move."

In a letter from the speaker's office to the two authors, it explained that the books would not be accepted. It gave no reason why.

"The speaker never gave us a reason why he didn't distribute the books," added Papineau.

Papineau explained that the purpose of the book was not to malign or defame anyone, but rather to address the problems in the justice system.

"We didn't write the book to knock anyone," said Papineau. "We were doing it as a democratic gesture."



QUÉBECGATE: A CONSPIRACY OF SILENCE, IS A BOOK EVERY QUÉBECER SHOULD READ.

IT'S FULL OF EXAMPLES OF THE CORRUPTION AND SECRECY WHICH RUN RAMPANT IN THE QUÉBEC JUSTICE SYSTEM, AND BACKS IT UP WITH DETAILED RESEARCH.

BUT ODDLY ENOUGH, MANY PEOPLE DON'T WANT TO READ IT — OR, PERHAPS MORE ACCURATELY, DON'T WANT IT TO BE READ BY ANYONE.

events

The Indian Progressive Study Group will be holding its first meeting of the year today in Shitner 435. For more info, call Nityanand Deckha at 284-3651.

The Jewish Studies Student Society is having its first meeting today at 16h30 in the student lounge, basement of the Jewish Studies Building, 3511 Peel.

McGill-Israel Public Affairs Committee will have its opening meeting today at 17h30m, in Hillel House, 3460 Stanley. Phone: 845-9171.

The Black Students' Network are meeting for the first of a two-part look at "Discrimination at the Hands of the Law", focussing on recent events and offering commentary and perspective. 550 Sherbrooke West, room 1185. Call 398-6815 for info.

McGill Outing Club meeting in Leacock 132 today at 19h30.

The International Socialists will be sponsoring a discussion on world politics today in the Onion Bildung room 435, at 19h30.

Concordia's Computer Fair, today and tomorrow on the second floor of the Hall building, 1455 deMaisonneuve Ouest. Prizes include Aldus Pagemaker. For more info, call 848 7905.

**WHY LET YOUR LANDLORD GET AWAY
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THE MCGILL DAILY'S**

"TOP 10 SLIMIEST LANDLORDS" COMPETITION?



That's right — if you're sick of that sweaty smelly greedy pig of a slumlord not returning your calls when your bathroom floods, roof caves in or the cockroaches eat your History assignment, then send us their names with a list of as many offences as possible.

Entries will be judged by things like high rent, refusal to make repairs, nasty behaviour and attitudes (i.e. letting themselves into your apartment while you're in the shower in the house alone), and the number of polyester leisure suits they own.

Remember, they don't give a shit about you, so don't be afraid to get them into shit.

WEST POINT STUDENT CONFERENCE ON UNITED STATES AFFAIRS

Applications are invited for ONE delegate to attend the 44th annual West Point Conference "Forging the Future: Redefining Priorities and Policies." The conference will be held at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point from November 15–November 18, 1992. Preference will be given to U3 students with academic background in international politics, international economics and area studies. Applications may be obtained from:

Professor Jerome H. Black, Chair
Department of Political Science
Leacock 509

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 2
LATE APPLICATIONS CANNOT BE ACCEPTED

Ah, to be back at school, to walk the hallowed halls where new ideas are always welcome, and where all are ready to go seek the truth. Nice place, but where is it? Certainly not in a Board of Governors meeting.

Monday's meeting began with governors proclaiming their "sorrow and sympathy" for Concordians over their loss of three professors in the Fabrikant shootings. The sorrow and sympathy lasted through about 15 seconds of silence, and then they got down to business.

Receiving reports

The main business of BoG (at least in the open part of their meetings) is receiving reports from the committees that do all the real work. Various governors ask polite questions about the details of the reports, and decisions are put off until later.

This time round, the reports revealed a number of interesting factoids. For example, the recent government grant to universities is giving McGill only a quarter of a million dollars more than was taken away in cuts earlier this year. And the Canadian Space Agency is giving Fuel Air Explosions wizard John Lee \$180 000 to burn coal dust in space.

Private donors gave McGill a record \$39 million during the past year. Not all of this was in the form of money. Some \$3.5 million was in the form of gifts "in kind", including such items as books, computers, furniture and used cars.

BoG briefs

BY FIONA MCCAW

"We take almost anything," said vice-principal advancement Michael Kiefer.

McGill is planning to give astronaut Roberta Bondar an honorary degree at Fall Convocation in November, and a certain former Soviet Union president is slated to visit McGill on March 15, 1993.

So, ya wanna be a manager...

The governors increased the application fee for the McGill MBA program from \$28 with no fee for re-application to an impressive \$100, with another \$100 for re-application. Of Canadian MBA programs, only U of T and Western have application fees that high.

Students' Society prez Jason Prince opposed the increase on the grounds that students voted by a substantial majority to oppose all fee hikes in a referendum last spring.

The State of the University Address

After the Board of Governors meeting, a joint Senate/Board meeting convened to hear a red-faced and coughing Principal David Johnston pontificate about the way things are going at our beloved Alma Mater.

For those of you who are not interested, it was as dull as it sounds.

For those of you who are interested, read the Reporter.

The principal concentrated on

McGill's financial woes. Despite balancing the budget for the second year in a row, McGill still has a \$73 million deficit.

Johnston said that McGill had been receiving less than its fair share of provincial money for universities, getting some five to ten per cent less per student than the Université de Montréal.

He suggested that the government hike tuition to levels equal to those in the rest of Canada.

The principal also emphasised that student aid funds in the form of loans and bursaries should be provided, so that no student would be barred from the university because of lack of funds.

Tuition trouble

In response to the principal, Students' Society prez Jason Prince again noted students' opposition to fee hikes. He suggested other possible fund-raising methods, including a corporate tax and deferred tuition to be paid after graduation.

Prince asked Johnston whether last year's six per cent hike had resulted in increased government funding for McGill. Johnston said it hadn't.

Johnston criticised the students' anti-tuition fee stance, calling it "short-sighted", and an ineffective strategy in lobbying the government for money.

The Board of Governors meets five times a year in Leacock 232. Next meeting is Monday November 30 at 15h30.

letters

James J. Hogan
Professor of Chemistry

Armchair tripping

To the Daily:

This is regarding your article "Tripping the live fantastic..." in the Daily. I realise much of it was tongue in cheek, and having been there myself in my younger days, I am hardly one to preach. But one bit is a bit dangerous, and you should be aware of that, and of the legal implications to yourself.

Under "Ecstasy" you speak of its "use" and continue that acid works just as well...

Chemists (like me) have smoked their share of grass, and many have tried the hard drugs. No one will go near the mind alterers, however. LSD, meth (which I am sure you are aware is speed) and others are straight brain pathway altering drugs. And their damage is not necessarily reversible; the bad trip months later is a direct result of altered transmission of the nerve fibers.

Ecstasy is just a trivially disguised form of speed, and to casually dismiss it as you did is really not as responsible as you ought to be. To make it worse, the ice and ecstasy which was floating on campus last year was not good stuff — it was cut with a variety of things, not the least of which was strychnine, more commonly used as rat poison.

You have to be careful, even writing tongue in cheek in a campus newspaper. It was only a few years ago (about five I think) that a student tripping on LSD decided he could fly (from Leacock) and died trying. If such occurred, and a parent got hold of your article, you could, my friend, be sued for all you are, or ever will be, worth. The same holds true for the parts about construction sites, metro tunnels and all. Be careful.

Despite all, I enjoyed your article; some of it was pretty funny and all of it was well written. Good luck. Get drunk or stoned when you want, lay off the addictive stuff, but just don't forget — tripping on brain chemicals is not recommended for intelligent people.

Sudden generosity

To the Daily:

So I see Québec has increased its funding for the loan program by 32 per cent ("Recession hits students hard", Sept. 21). It would seem that the Québec government is interested in supporting its students.

Perhaps it would be important, though, to emphasise two other reasons for the government's sudden generosity. First of all, many more students are now living in poverty, largely due to the recent huge increases in tuition fees.

Also, a large amount of the increase in loans is due to the government's move away from bursaries and towards loans, which represents a net loss in funding for student aid.

David D'Andrea
U3, Psychology
Co-prez, NDP McGill

Anonymous Mike

To the Daily:

I just read your article "T-shirt debacle embarrasses floor fellows" in the Sept. 21 Daily. In it you have a quote from "Mike, a floor fellow who asked to remain anonymous." What the fuck?

Jeremy Michelson
U3 Science

Ed. note: Mike was not the person's real name.

Eunuch wizards

To the Daily:

Re: the CUP article on sexual imagery available through Internet.

At issue is the concept central to computers, and the area of communications which has become fundamental to them: free flow of information.

To illustrate: pioneering hackers practiced (some still do) open computer

systems (i.e. no security); newsgroup unix.wizards (as in specialists, not sorcerers) had a series of articles objecting to an attempt at defining its readership — though, worldwide, only a few thousands are qualified enough for it; some of the best software around is available free (i.e. you work months/years and give it away gratis), the underlying principle being free access and sharing; on Usenet, you can post a question on sub-topics from supercomputers to sewing, and people take from their expensive time to reply.

As such, censorship is a ubiquitous concern (which, by the way, was all I, too, saw in alt.sex.bestiality). Communication is the foundation of Usenet and Internet. What would you have said if feminism groups were unilaterally removed? Protecting this and that group has always been an excuse for inflicting one's morality upon others.

And what sort of precedent would this set? Religious, misogynist and discriminatory articles are posted by a few to some culture groups. Would those be next?

Besides, the pictures groups include homosexual imagery. Considering that pornography has a completely different role in that community, should those be exempted?

Media have, and will increasingly, become electronic. 'Freedom of the Press' is a concept taken too literally. Narrow-distribution (not mass-) is the media that will replace print. An immense — yet subdivided for individual taste — body of knowledge available instantly. Usenet is a contemporary scientific model. To this 'freedom of the Press' should, and will increasingly, apply.

Ali Hamisheh Bahar
Computer Engineering U2

P.S. Viewing such images requires several softwares, decoding and substantial knowledge (90% of my class don't know how).

CLASSIFIEDS

Ads may be placed through the Daily business office, Room B-17, Union Building, 9h00-14h00. Deadline is 14h00, two working days prior to publication.

McGill Students (with valid ID): \$3.50 per day, 3 or more consecutive days, \$2.50 per day. **McGill Employees** (with staff card) \$4.50 per day, 3 or more consecutive days, \$3.50 per day. All others: \$5.00 per day, or \$4.00 per day for 3 or more consecutive days. (Prices do not include applicable GST or PST). For more information, please visit our office in person or call 398-6790 - WE CANNOT TAKE CLASSIFIED ADS OVER THE PHONE. The Daily assumes no financial responsibility for errors, or damage due to errors. Ad will re-appear free of charge upon request if information is incorrect due to our error. The Daily reserves the right not to print any classified ad.

1 - Housing

Female Med. Student wants to share 5 1/2 with female, non-smoker, serious student. 24 hr. security, air-conditioned, on Drummond St. Please call 282-8032. Student/professional.

Condo to share - 5 1/2, loft style; exposed brick/pine, furnished, sundeck, backyard, fireplace, washer/dryer, 10 minutes from McGill, parking available; neat non-smoker. \$450 all included. Tel: 849-0932.

Want a better place to live? Room in sunny apartment. Hutchison/St. Viateur. Washer/dryer, private phone. Non-smoker preferred. Bring toothbrush (sheets and towels provided if necessary). Long/short term. \$300/month (everything included). 279-8724.

Rent 4 1/2, close to McGill, Royal Victoria Hospital. Furnished, heated, electricity. Quiet, greystone house facing park. Good large & small food stores, Restaurants 843-5703.

Female student to share 4 1/2 with another female student. Clean, quiet, sunny rooms. \$290 per month. Call 499-8419 or 843-6123.

APTS/ROOMS TO LET. Furnished room for rent in modest Westmount home. Share 8 room house with one non-smoker. Immediate short or long term. 481-5911.

Montreal North - Spacious 5 1/2 facing park. \$505. 324-3794.



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2 - Movers/Storage

Moving/Storage. Closed van or truck. Local and long distance. Off-Tor-Van-NY-Fla. 7 days 24 hours. Cheap. Steve 735-8148.

Moving Service Available. Alex 324-3794.

3 - Help Wanted

Tutor needed for Intro to Biochemistry. Needed immediately. Call Sheree, 625-6466.

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Term papers, theses, CV's typed accurately by experienced typist. Reasonable. looks good on a laser printer. Located in the "ghetto." 843-3449.

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Bilingual quality typing service at low cost, on IBM PS/1 and HP Deskjet printer. Pick-up and delivery guaranteed. Call 685-6346, 947-6727.

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6 - Services Offered

Excellent care for your youngster with activities, toys and hot meals, in home daycare in downtown. Mano: 288-4326.

Need T-shirts, caps or shorts printed? Call fellow McGill student. Little Face 721-9086.

7 - For Sale

EXXADOWN COATS, moved to 1445 Bleury (north of Ste Catherine). Parkas \$149, long Coats \$149+ (value \$225), Children's Outerwear \$75+. Great prices. Top brands. 842-3465.

Antique Dresser. Price negotiable. Call 931-1519 between 6-8 pm.

Bomber Jackets \$69.95 (Black, Navy, Wine, Green, Grey). Wide choice of boots, pants, socks, fashion Misty Mountain jackets. Down coats great prices, CANAM 1445 Bleury.

Queen-sized futon and frame, good cond. \$130.00. large white kitchen table \$60.00. Three desk chairs \$10.00 each. 987-9961.

One exercise bike worth \$150. Never used. Fully assembled. Digital features. Half price - only \$75! 279-5413. *Will trade for real bike.

Artist Attention. Stones beginning \$1.00. Australian opal \$1.50 plus Big choice of stones, Jewels, etc. Nora Stones & Minerals. 3575 Parc Ave. Lower level.

IKEA Bookshelf \$75; Shoel molo helmet (new) \$85; loveseat/hide-a-bed \$65; double futon & base \$75; Complete B&W darkroom equipment. All negotiable. 937-7652.

Used Laptops. Toshiba T100+, with carrying case and software. Ask for Richard 487-9294.

Double bed for sale. Wooden frame, white finish, excellent condition, including comforter. \$200.00; Tel.: 288-4995.

Woolen rug (3x5 metres, pastel colours); tables, blinds, 2 couches, coffee table (pine, oval), pine bed frame + double futon, oil paintings, kitchen utensils. 279-8724.

CAMPUS BARTENDING GUIDE. 100's of shooter/cocktail recipes. Exciting new drinking games. Send \$5.99 cheque/money order to DCH Enterprises, P.O. Box 896, Succ. Place du Parc, H2W 2P5. Money-back Guarantee.

10 - Rides/Tickets

One way plane ticket to Calgary for a male for Oct. 7. Asking \$125 o.b.o. Phone 934-6155. Ask for Ravi.

11 - Lost & Found

Found valuable ring. Friday, 18th in front of Gert's. Call Chris 284-6308.

12 - Personal

Tracey Bolton: The missing number was our error. We are giving you an extra day. Sorry.

19 year-old Finnish girl wishes to work as au pair in English-speaking family in Montreal for 6 months starting in September. Call Jodi: 398-3845.

13 - Lessons/Courses

Score well on the LSAT, GMAT, or

GRE! Our preparation courses which use a unique approach have been used successfully by thousands since 1979. Call 1-800-567-7737.

Come and practice your French with francophones. Club Hall 1 1/2. Half. Tel.: 465-9128.

14 - Notices

WUSC-McGill: Information sessions on Indonesian seminar. Thursday, Sept. 24th, 5:00, Rm. 435; Monday, Sept. 28th, 5:00, Rm. 413, Shatner Building. Application deadline: Oct. 15th. Info: 286-0714.

Renting Office Space. 1300 square feet located near Charles Lemoyne Hospital.

ST. MARTHA'S IN-THE-BASEMENT: An informal, non-denominational Christian community meets every Sunday 10:30 a.m., basement United Theological College, 3521 University. 398-4104. Everyone welcome.

15 - Volunteers

Faculty of Dentistry wants volunteers to participate in a preventive clinic course with second-year students, female or male. Participants will receive a complete oral examination with a free cleaning. Must be available Sept. 28, Oct. 19, Nov. 2, or Oct. 5, 26 and Nov. 9 between 2:30-4:30 p.m. Call Christine Wooley ASAP at 426-3455.

17 - Parking

Parking space available. Aylmer & Milton. Rent negotiable. Call 843-8802 (leave msg.).

PARKING. Parking for small cars for rent now one minute from campus. End your circling the block and ticket blues by calling 481-5911.



GENERAL ASSEMBLY WORKSHOPS

What's a General Assembly?

- (1) From the Latin **Generalibus Assemblibus**, meaning the place where large busses are assembled?
- (2) A horde of Vikings attacking from the sea (and grounds for impeaching the SSMU President)?
- (3) The most democratic way of involving all SSMU members in decision-making?

If you chose #3, you've won an all-expenses paid trip to Room 132 of the Leacock Building.

That's where, on **October 8th** at 5:30 pm, the Student's Society of McGill University will hold a General Assembly at which all McGill undergraduates will meet to set policies guiding the Society's political campaigns for the current year.

The issues to be debated at this Assembly will be determined at three sets of workshops Sept. 24-30th. **Workshop One (Student Rights)** can include campus safety, policies on sexual assault and sexual harassment, the Africana Studies Program and curriculum diversity, and employment equity. **Workshop Two (External Affairs)** can include tuition fees, loans & bursaries, a position on abortion rights and self-determination for Quebec. **Workshop Three (University Government)** can include pushing for more student input on Senate and the Board of Governors and other University bodies that decide how our money is spent.

WORKSHOP ONE STUDENT RIGHTS:

WEDNESDAY
SEPTEMBER 23RD
550 SHERBROKE ST WEST
ROOM 1180
8 PM

THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 24
THOMPSON HOUSE
3650 McTAVISH
12:30
(WOMEN'S CAUCUS)

TUESDAY SEPT 29
UNION BUILDING
ROOM 310
5-6:30 PM

WORKSHOP TWO EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:

THURS, SEPT. 24TH
THOMPSON HOUSE
3650 McTAVISH
5:00-7:00 PM

WED, SEPT 30TH
THOMPSON HOUSE
3650 McTAVISH
6:30-8:00

WORKSHOP THREE UNIVERSITY GOVERNMENT:

TUES, SEPT. 29TH
ARTS BLDG, ROOM 110
6:00 PM

EVERYONE WELCOME!!!

What is the secret to a better education?
Finding a place with a
great atmosphere where you can
eat and drink inexpensively!

Discover Park Avenue's Best Kept Secret
Daily Specials from \$5.95 (soup & dessert incl.)
A great place to meet after class!

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3444 Park Avenue 982-6113

Cricket team doing fine on its own

BY RON LACHMAN

The McGill Cricket Club finished its season last Saturday at the top of its division — little thanks to McGill.

Club members have beaten 11 other teams to become the reigning 'C' division champs of the Montréal League of the Québec Cricket Federation. They won again last weekend by dispatching their closest rivals 62-61 in a friendly game at St. Simon Park.

But club president Kumbesam Sandrasegaran said that keeping the club going was difficult from the beginning, particularly due to lack of support from McGill.

"It was an uphill struggle," Sandrasegaran said. "Fielding a cricket team is not a cheap proposition."

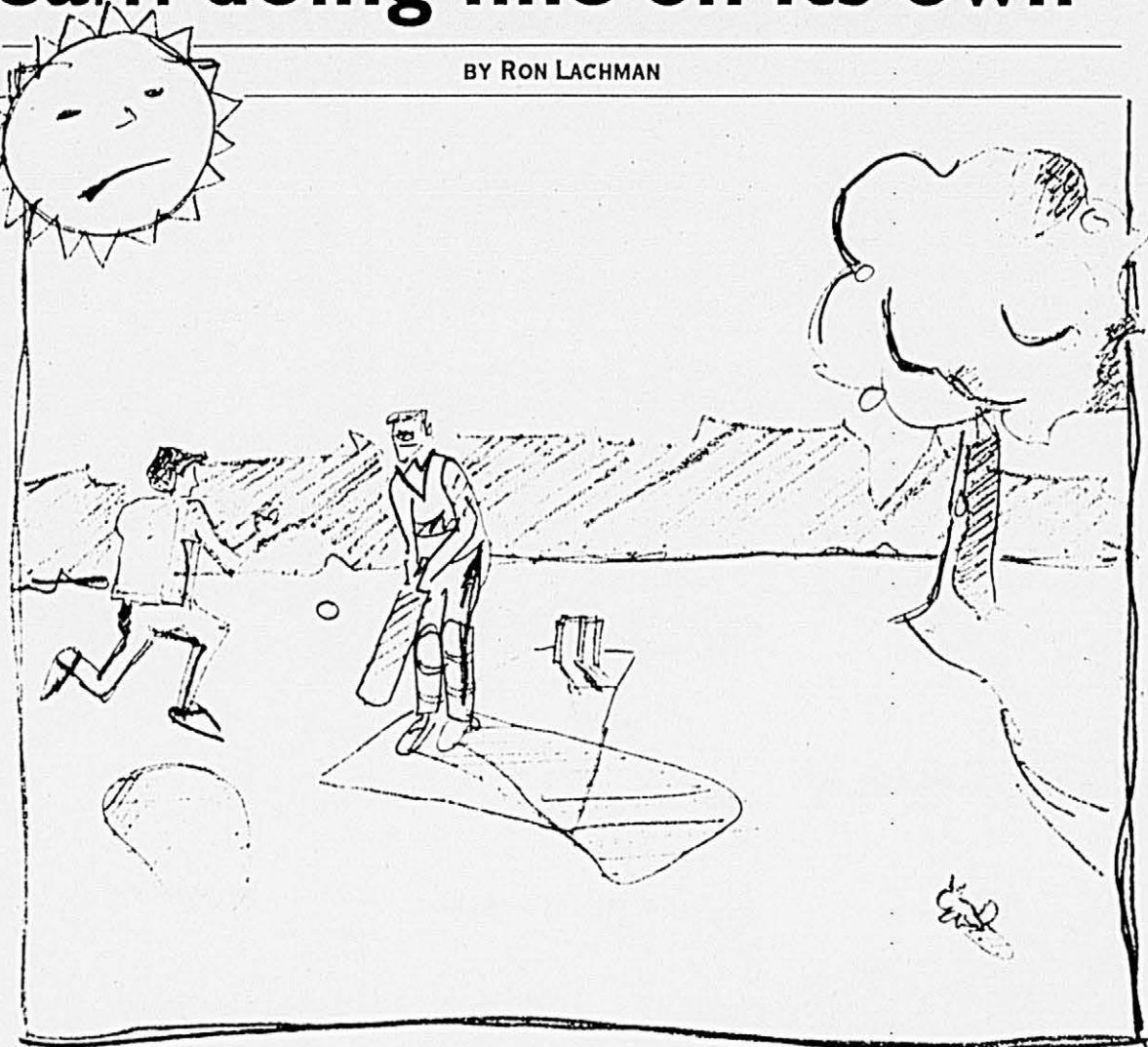
According to Sandrasegaran, equipment costs last season were \$2000, league fees were \$500 and refreshments set the club back another \$200. Expenses will double next year if a second team is put together as planned.

When they began their summer season this year without a field to play in, Sandrasegaran contacted the McGill Athletics department to see about renting facilities, but the costs were prohibitive.

"I wrote a letter to McGill Athletics in March," said Sandrasegaran. "But they told me I'd have to pay \$17 an hour or more to rent a facility."

Eyal Baruch, assistant facilities manager for McGill Athletics, said that the team approached them too late in the summer.

"I was prepared to give them free space, as much as I could," said Baruch. "It's just that he approached me in the middle of the summer and said he needed a field right



away."

The club had better luck at Macdonald College, which agreed to maintain a field for them at the farm near the Highway 20 overpass.

McGill Athletics only funds 14 teams, among them men's and women's basketball, football and soccer. Every two years a seven-member student committee decides whether to fund new teams.

Al Grazys, an inter-collegiate coordinator for McGill Athletics, said he doubts the McGill Cricket Club will be added to the list this year.

"I don't know of any other university cricket teams in the area, so their chances of being recognised as

a funded team, in my opinion, are slim," Grazys says.

The Cricket club is not recognised by McGill's Students' Society either. Kathy Bowman, a programming secretary, says it's not their policy to fund athletic teams. Though Club members argue they are as much a social club as a cricket team, Bowman disagreed.

"Their goal is to enhance people's awareness of cricket," she said. "Any dances or social functions they might hold are beside the point."

But the club does receive a \$200 per semester grant from McGill's Graduate Students' Society. Aside from that, the club has had to raise its own funds.

Much of their revenue has come from selling samosas — members have sold 10 000 samosas in the Union Building so far.

There are 50 club members now, and over 60 more signed up on Activities Night, 20 of them female.

The team beat the Kanti Vibhag Sports Club of Montréal last Saturday in just over three hours. It was unseasonably cold, but the players didn't mind. They were sporting brand-new team t-shirts over their regular clothes.

Viswasam points to the logo on his shirt. Over the McGill crest are the words "McGill Cricket". But under the crest, it reads "Macdonald College".

CRICKET

AN OLD GAME

FOR A NEW TEAM

BY RON LACHMAN

Cricket originated in England in the 16th century and spread to the British colonies. Think of it as an older, distant cousin of baseball.

But instead of a home plate, you've got three sticks or "wickets" stuck in the ground. The "bowler" tries to knock them down with a hard, red ball. The batsman stands in front of the wickets and swings, scoring runs depending on how far he hits the ball.

McGill had some of the strongest cricket teams in Montréal in the 1940s and '50s, so members of McGill's new cricket club see their team as a revival, not a new club.

One new member, Simon Baker, turned up just in time to play in the season's final game. Baker is studying economics at McGill for a year. Being from England, he's an avid cricketer.

"I played every weekend in London for years and years," he says. "It was a pleasant surprise to find a cricket club here."

Cape Breton creeps finally charged

OTTAWA (CUP)—The RCMP has finally charged three men with sexually assaulting a fellow student in a campus residence at the University College of Cape Breton last fall.

The alleged assault was first reported to the Sydney detachment of the RCMP in September 1991. The survivor was rebuffed by police who said there was not enough evidence to lay charges against the three men she accused.

Instead, the police charged the 19-year-old woman with public mischief. The charge was later dropped for lack of evidence.

But police now admit they made a mistake.

On September 11, the RCMP in Halifax overturned the early decision not to proceed with the case. Two former students and one returning student have been charged with sexual assault.

"We admit the whole thing was not handled right," said Sgt. Bill

Price, an RCMP spokesperson. "She should have her day in court."

According to a statement made last fall, the woman was repeatedly told by an RCMP officer that she had not been assaulted.

"He used words like 'baloney' and 'bull' when I tried to explain what happened," she said. "He threatened to humiliate me further if I did not cooperate by changing my story."

The woman's lawyer, Elizabeth Cusack Walsh, said her client wasn't surprised that the three students were charged.

"We knew there was enough evidence," Cusack Walsh said.

She said the RCMP officer who charged the alleged victim with public mischief should be disciplined.

According to the RCMP, the force is reviewing its handling of the case, but an internal investigation has not been launched.

Donald Fewer, the school's dean of student services, said the univer-

sity could mete out its own punishment if the students are found guilty of sexual assault.

"According to the school's judicial code, any student who is charged with an incident at the university or at a university-related event could be punished," Fewer said. The punishment could range from a fine to expulsion, he said.

UCCB's interim president, William Gallivan, said the alleged incident has heightened awareness of safety for women among students.

Over the past year, the school has started educating students about acquaintance rape and alcohol abuses, Gallivan said in a statement.

The three men charged are: George B. Power, 19, of Stephenville, Nfld., Perry S. Winklemann, 24, of Calgary, and Paul R. McInnis, 23, of Burlington, Ont.

They will be arraigned in Sydney on October 29.

MUSH ROOM by grace

So Mr. Mushroom how do you feel about the Québec separatist movement?

AGRIC

Speaking as a mushroom, I know that we are all of the same phylum and are therefore brothers. I support my brother's need for personal development but I also need him as part of my complete family... (insert intellectual look)

As a Newfoundlander, what do you think of Mr. Clyde Wells' approach to constitutional reform?

Why haven't you used your amazing magical powers to resolve the situation?

WHAT KIND OF LEADERS HAVE WE ELECTED?! HOW COULD THEY NOT ASK MAGIC MUSHROOM?! if you are equally appalled, write your MP.

Its odor and perspiration free

Well... I've never been asked.